Fruitfulness of Marriages in France. Communicated by the Rev.
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M. HIPPOLYTE PASSY, in a paper, lately communicated to the Academy
of Moral and Political Sciences, " On the division of property and its
influence on the distribution of wealth," remarks, that in Europe
marriages are generally less fruitful in large towns than in small ones,
and in these than in the country. Thus in France, from 1826 to 1836,
there were born annually, on an average, 904,702 legitimate children ;
and as the annual average number of marriages was 256,947, it follows
that there have been produced by each marriage rather more than 3·52
children. In those towns of France which contain 20,000 inhabitants
and upwards, and which are 39 in number, there is a total population of
2,634,532 persons, among whom, from 1826 to 1836, there have been on
an average 65,290 legitimate births per annum, and 21,274 marriages ;
which numbers give 3·05 children for each marriage. This number is
less than the general average number for the whole of France by 0·47,
and less than the corresponding number for towns with populations
under 20,000 by 0·51. This difference is believed to depend, in some
of the large towns, on the composition of their population ; the numbers
being by no means the same for each. Those that possess the greatest
number of wealthy families are found to be the least productive, while
those that are filled with a manufacturing or maritime population attain,
in this respect, higher numbers. The six towns where marriages are
the *least* fruitful are Mans, Tours, Versailles, Angers, Caen, and
Clermont-Ferrand ; the average numbers being from 2·45 to 2·74 for
each marriage. The six towns where marriages are the *most* fruitful are
St. Etienne, Nismes, Boulogne, Marseilles, Dunkirk, and Limoges ; the
average number being from 3·56 to 3·75 for each marriage. In these
latter towns, where the population is employed to a considerable extent
in manufactures and other laborious occupations, the number is greater
than the general average number for France. Similar proportions exist
for the towns of the same department, compared with each other,
according as they are more or less manufacturing. The results pre-
sented by the city of Paris are very conclusive on this point ; the
fecundity of marriages in each arrondissement being found to vary in
almost exactly the inverse ratio of the wealth of each of these districts.
Thus the most opulent arrondissement, the 2nd, does not give two
children for each marriage ; whereas the poorest, the 12th, gives 3·24.
The following is a table of the annual average proportion of births for
each marriage in each arrondissement, calculated on the average of five
years from 1832 to 1836 :—

No.	Births.	No.	Births.	No.	Births.
2	1·87	4	2·38	8	2·72
10	1·94	9	2·39	1	2·8
3	2·	7	2·57	5	2·89
11	2·12	6	2·59	12	3·24

This view is to a certain extent borne out by historical facts. The
ancient families of Greece, and more especially of Rome, were always
complained of as rapidly becoming extinct. In some modern countries

the *noblesse* of the second order is kept up only by the multiplication of letters patent of creation. Thus, in some of the provinces of Holland, there does not exist a single family of those formerly inscribed on the registers of the equestrian order. At Berne, at the end of the last century, there remained only one half of the noble families who attained a permanent seat in the councils of the state during the 16th century. Almost all the great historical families in all countries have become extinct.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.

In England, it appears from two papers by Mr. T. R. Edmonds, published in the Lancet, 10th February, 1838, and 9th March, 1839, that in the year 1834 there were only 74 titles in the English peerage which had endured more than four generations, or more than 133 years; and of these only 13 had descended in a direct line for as many as six generations. Of this small number two (Huntly and Essex) have since passed into collateral branches by the death° of their holders, and three others will most probably do so upon the decease of the present peers. On comparing the mortality among the ancient peerages with that among the more modern, it was found that at ages under 40 the mortality of the total occupants of the ancient titles is considerably greater than that of the occupants of modern titles. Some improvement however has taken place in this respect during the last century, as the mortality of occupants of ancient titles during the last four generations has been less than that of their predecessors.

Quarterly Averages of the Weekly Liabilities and Assets of the Bank of England, in the Quarters ended 15th October, 12th November, and 10th December, 1839, and in the corresponding Quarters of the preceding Year.

Quarters ended	LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.		
	Circulation.	Deposits.	Total.	Securities.	Bullion.	Total.
1838.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
16th October .	19,359,000	9,327,000	28,686,000	22,015,000	9,437,000	31,452,000
16th Nov. ...	18,900,000	8,949,000	27,849,000	21,171,000	9,339,000	30,510,000
11th Dec.	18,469,000	9,033,000	27,502,000	20,707,000	9,362,000	30,069,000
1839.						
15th October .	17,612,000	6,734,000	24,346,000	24,939,000	2,525,000	27,464,000
12th Nov. ...	17,235,000	6,132,000	23,367,000	23,873,000	2,545,000	26,418,000
10th Dec.	16,732,000	5,952,000	22,684,000	22,764,000	2,887,000	25,651,000

Aggregate Amount of Notes circulated in England and Wales by Private Banks, and by Joint Stock Banks and their Branches, respectively, in each of the Quarters ended 29th June and 28th September, 1838-39.

Quarters ended.	1838.			1839.		
	Private Banks.	Joint Stock Banks.	Total.	Private Banks.	Joint Stock Banks.	Total.
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
29th June....	7,383,247	4,362,256	11,745,503	7,610,708	4,665,110	12,275,818
28th Sept. ..	7,083,811	4,281,151	11,364,962	6,917,657	4,167,313	11,084,970

An Account *of the Quantities of Foreign and Colonial Wheat and Wheat-Flour imported, paid Duty, and remaining in Warehouse, in each of the Months ended* 10*th October,* 5*th November, and* 5*th December,* 1839. *(Continued from p.* 382.*)*

Months ended	WHEAT.			WHEAT-FLOUR.		
	Imported.	Paid Duty.	Remaining in Warehouse at the end of the Month.	Imported.	Paid Duty.	Remaining in Warehouse at the end of the Mouth.
	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
10th Oct.	407,200	774,642	2,892	67,267	129,630	19,613
5th Nov.]	132,565	113,503	16,223	44,972	33,911	27,221
5th Dec.	60,896	7,162	69,805	55,039	36,074	43,078

Average Septennial Prices of Corn per Imperial Bushel in England and Wales, calculated pursuant to the Tithe Commutation Act, in each Year, from 1835 *to* 1838.

Average of Seven Years, ended Christmas	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
1835 . . .	7 0¼	3 11½	2 9
1836 . . .	6 8¼	3 11¾	2 9
1837 . . .	6 6¾	3 11¼	2 8¾
1838 . . .	6 6¼	3 9¾	2 8

Average Prices of Corn per Imperial Quarter, in England and Wales, with the Rate of Duty on Foreign Wheat, during each Week, from 27*th Sept. to* 20*th Dec.* 1839 ; *also the Average Prices of each Month, and of the Quarter ended Michaelmas,* 1839.—*(Continued from p.* 382.*)*

DATE.	WHEAT.			WEEKLY AVERAGE.				
	Weekly Average.	Aggregate Average.	Duty on Foreign.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
Weeks ended	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Sept. 27 .	70 1	70 10	10 8	40 4	28 10	38 3	44 7	43 5
Oct. 4 .	70 4	70 9	10 8	40 8	26 9	38 1	46 0	44 2
,, 11 .	67 2	70 0	10 8	41 2	25 9	37 9	46 1	44 11
,, 18 .	65 6	68 11	16 8	41 0	25 5	38 7	45 6	45 0
,, 25 .	66 5	68 2	16 8	41 3	25 4	38 5	45 5	46 1
Nov. 1 .	66 5	67 8	18 8	41 3	25 8	37 9	45 0	46 2
,, 8 .	67 4	67 2	18 8	41 4	26 0	36 1	45 7	45 2
,, 15 .	68 6	66 11	20 8	42 7	26 4	39 1	46 3	44 9
,, 22 .	69 0	67 2	18 8	43 1	26 5	37 4	46 1	45 1
,, 29 .	67 1	67 5	18 8	41 6	25 10	38 3	45 1	43 8
Dec. 6 .	66 3	67 5	18 8	40 3	25 8	38 5	44 7	43 6
,, 13 .	65 8	67 4	18 8	39 8	24 9	39 1	44 11	43 3
,, 20 .	66 8	67 2	18 8	40 9	24 3	37 10	43 4	42 7
Months.								
September	70 6	70 4	..	39 7	27 4	39 5	43 6	42 6
October .	67 4	69 5	..	41 0	25 9	38 2	45 9	45 0
November	67 8	67 3	..	41 11	26 0	37 8	45 7	44 11
Quarter ended } Michaelmas }	70 5	..	..	38 8	27 0	43 0	42 2	41 6

An Abstract of the Net Produce of the Revenue of Great Britain in each of the Years and Quarters ended 10*th October,* 1838 *and* 1839.

Description.	Years ended 10th October,			
	1838.	1839.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£.	£.	£.	£.
Customs	18,823,619	19,915,296	1,091,677	..
Excise	11,827,788	12,152,171	324,383	..
Stamps	6,636,204	6,508,523	..	127,681
Taxes	3,647,157	3,713,784	66,627	..
Post-Office	1,536,000	1,533,000	..	3,000
Crown Lands	130,000	160,000	30,000	..
Miscellaneous . . .	44,781	103,907	59,126	..
Imprest and other Monies	481,966	499,964	17,998	..
Repayments of Advances.	501,168	756,009	254,841	..
Total Income . .	43,628,683	45,342,654	1,844,652	130,681

Description.	Quarters ended 10th October.			
	1838.	1839.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£.	£.	£.	£.
Customs	5,469,271	5,778,006	308,735	..
Excise	4,093,959	4,113,159	19,200	..
Stamps	1,751,476	1,699,724	..	51,752
Taxes	328,045	311,283	..	16,762
Post-Office	410,000	407,000	..	3,000
Crown Lands	65,000	40,000	..	25,000
Miscellaneous	8,376	17,654	9,278	..
Imprest and other Monies	28,424	41,426	13,002	..
Repayments of Advances.	194,524	234,045	39,521	..
Total Income . .	12,349,075	12,642,297	389,736	96,514

Total Increase on the Year, £1,713,971; total ncrease on the Quarter, £293,222.

An Abstract of the Income and Charges of the Consolidated Fund in each of the Quarters ended 10*th October,* 1838 *and* 1839.

INCOME.			CHARGE.		
Description.	Quarters ended 10th October.		Description.	Quarters ended 10th October.	
	1838.	1839.		1838.	1839.
	£.	£.		£.	£.
Customs	3,990,050	4,484,752	Permanent Debt . .	3,416,521	3,409,271
Excise	4,115,757	4,133,334	Terminable Annuities	1,391,897	1,409,975
Stamps	1,751,476	1,699,724	Interest on Exche- }	23,869	27,794
Taxes	328,045	311,283	quer Bills . . }		
Post Office	410,000	407,000	Sinking Fund . . .	..	..
Crown Lands . . .	65,000	40,000	Civil List	96,411	96,570
Miscellaneous . . .	8,376	17,654	Other Charges . .	372,135	332,291
Imprest and other Monies	28,424	41,426	Charge for Advances.	126,000	230,761
Repayments of Advances	194,524	234,045	Total Charge .	5,426,833	5,506,662
Total	10,891,652	11,369,218			
Cash applied to pay off }	..	230,000	The Surplus . .	5,464,819	6,092,556
Deficiency Bills. . }					
Total Income .	10,891,652	11,599,218	Total . . .	10,891,652	11,599,218

An Analysis of Bankruptcies in England and Wales, showing the Counties and Trades in which the same occurred, during each Month from September to November 1839.—(In continuation of Account at Vol. II., p. 384.)

COUNTIES.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
Bedford	..	..	..
Berks	1	..	2
Bucks	..	..	1
Cambridge	..	..	..
Chester	3	1	3
Cornwall	1	..	1
Cumberland	1	..	..
Derby	..	1	2
Devon	4	4	1
Dorset	..	1	..
Durham	1	..	1
Essex	..	1	2
Gloucester	1	1	4
Hants	1	..	1
Hereford	1	1	1
Hertford	1	..	..
Huntingdon	..	..	..
Kent	1	2	1
Lancaster	28	13	27
Leicester	..	..	1
Lincoln	1	1	3
Middlesex	9	17	46
Monmouth	..	..	..
Norfolk	1	1	2
Northampton	..	..	1
Northumberland	..	..	3
Nottingham	..	1	..
Oxford	2	..	..
Rutland	..	..	..
Salop	..	1	2
Somerset	2	..	2
Stafford	..	4	4
Suffolk	1	..	1
Surrey	..	3	8
Sussex	1	3	4
Warwick	1	4	10
Westmoreland	..	..	..
Wilts	..	..	..
Worcester	..	1	..
York	4	11	11
Wales	1	2	3
Total in 1839	67	74	148
Total in 1838	47	47	63

TRADES.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
Persons connected with Manufactures.			
Cotton Trade	4	2	9
Woollen do.	1	2	6
Silk do.	..	..	1
Linen do.	..	..	..
Iron do.	..	..	2
Iron Wares do..	1	1	1
Building	3	..	8
Miscellaneous	5	..	11
Agriculture.			
Farmers	..	..	..
Corn, Hay, and Hop Dealers, Millers	3	8	3
Cattle and Wool Dealers	2	2	2
Coaches & Horses	..	2	3
Brewers, Maltsters, and Distillers	4	1	2
Other.			
Innkeepers and Victuallers	4	7	10
Merchants, Warehousemen, Agents, Brokers, Ship-owners, & Wholesale Dealers	14	17	27
Tradesmen, Shopkeepers, & Retail Dealers	26	29	55
Miscellaneous	..	3	8
Total in 1839	67	74	148